Message Text

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TO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN PRIORITY
INFO AMCONSUL DURBAN PRIORITY
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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PINS, SEDU, SF, SHUM

SUBJECT: LEGAL STATUS OF CHURCH SCHOOLS' ENROLLMENT OF BLACK STUDENTS

REF; CAPE TOWN 114

1. DEPARTMENT NOTES 1956 STATUTE CITED IN NEWSPAPER REPORTS AS BARRING ADMISSION TO NON-WHITES IN PUBLIC AND LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PRIVATE SCHOOLS. DEPARTMENT WOULD APPRECIATE CURRENT TEXT OF AND COMMENTARY ON APPLICABLE LAW(S). ARE ALL PRIVATE (INCLUDING CHURCH) SCHOOLS COVERED, DOES LAW PERMIT EXCEPTIONS, AND EXERCISE OF ADMINISTRATIVE DISCRETION. WHAT ARE PENALTIES, CIVIL AND CRIMINAL, WITH RESPECT TO STUDENTS, FAMILIES, SCHOOL AUTHORITIES; POSSIBILITIES FOR APPEAL TO COURTS? HAS ANY ACTION TO CANCEL REGISTRATIONS BEEN

TAKEN? HAS ANY PARENT BEEN MOVED AGAINST IN ANY WAY FOR SENDING A CHILD TO A WHITE PRIVATE SCHOOL?

- 2. REFTEL INDICATES SOME POSSIBLE FUTURE CONSIDERATION "AT THE CABINET LEVEL" TO AMEND EXISTING CONDITIONS OF PRIVATE SCHOOL REGISTRATION. HAS THERE BEEN ANY MOVE AFOOT TO CHANGE ANY EXIS ING SCHOOL REGISTRATION REGULATIONS? HAVE ANY PRIVATE SCHOOLS INITIATED ANY PROCEEDINGS TO AMEND REGISTRATION REGULATIONS?
- 3. PRESS REPORTS UNCLEAR AS TO WHETHER ANGLICAN AND METHODIST SCHOOLS HAVE ENROLLED NON-WHITES. WHAT IS STATUS AND WHAT ARE PLANS?
- 4. THE NUMBER OF SCHOOLS AND BLACK, COLOURED OR ASIAN STUDENTS INVOLVED IS UNCLEAR. DOES EMBASSY HAVE ACCESS THIS INFORMATION? ARE ANY OF SUCH STUDENTS CHILDREN OF DIPLOMATS?
- 5. PLEASE AIR POUCH REPRESENTATIVE PRESS COVERAGE AND TEXTS ANY SIGNIFICANT STATEMENTS, INCLUDING PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES. DEPARTMENT IS AIR POUCHING TO EMBASSY COPY OF J.F. BURNS (NYT) STORY DATELINED CAPE TOWN FEB. 4.
- 6. WE UNDERSTAND FROM PRESS REPORTS THAT THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT AUTHORITIES HAVE PERMITTED DESEGREGATION OF CATHOLIC SCHOOLS, CLINICS AND HOSPITALS IN NAMIBIA. CAN THE EMBASSY CONFIRM THIS? IF SO, HAS THERE BEEN ANY INTERFERENCE FROM PRIVATE WHITES OR GOVERNMENT AUTHORITIES? LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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- 7. ROBIN WRIGHT IN TODAY'S WASHINGTON POST REPORTS FROM JOHANNESBURG: "AN EDUCATION OFFICIAL SAID THIS MORNING THAT THE FIRST STEPS IN DEREGISTERING THE FOUR SCHOOLS WOULD BE TAKEN THIS WEEK UNLESS THE NONWHITES WERE EXPELLED IMMEDIATELY". WHAT ARE PRECISE CONSEQUENCES OF DEREGISTRATION? (STORY POUCHED).
- 8. RECENT PRESS REPORTS INDICATE THAT CATHOLIC CHURCH WILL ALSO DESEGREGATE WITH REGARD TO EMPLOYMENT WITHIN ITS CHURCHES, HOSPITALS AND SCHOOLS. CAN EMBASSY CONFIRM THIS? IF SO, DOES THIS ACTION VIOLATE EXISTING LAW(S)? WHAT IS SITUATION WITH RESPECT TO WHITES ONLY AT SERVICES?

HARTMAN

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	Margaret P. Grafeld	Declassified/Released	US Department of State	EO Systematic Review	22 May 2009
NNN					

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